



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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*Thomas H. Majcher*  
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Reg. No. 31,119

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/632,741  
Applicant : Brent Belding et al.  
Filed : August 4, 2000  
Art Unit : 3738  
Examiner : Chattopadhyay, Urmi  
Title : DETACHABLE SHEATH TO PROVIDE PRE-DEPLOYMENT STENT SECURITY AND ENHANCED PRECISION

Docket No.: : ACS-53498 (2106P) Los Angeles, CA  
Customer No. : 24201 March 29, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO OVERCOME CITED PATENT OR PUBLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

We, Brent Belding, Brian P. Cahill, Jeffrey T. Ellis, Richard J. Foust, Arkady Kokish, Florencia Lim, Chi Long, declare the following:

1. We are the co-inventors of the subject matter of the above-identified patent application.
2. We previously submitted a Declaration to overcome the rejection of the claims of the present application as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,432,130 to Hanson (the "Hanson patent"). We have been informed that the Examiner has taken the position that the evidence submitted in our earlier

filed Declaration is insufficient to establish a reduction to practice prior to the effective date of the Hanson patent. We therefore submit this Supplemental Declaration which supplies additional evidence to establish an earlier reduction to practice of our invention in this country prior to the effective date of the Hansen reference.

3. To establish an earlier date of conception through completion in the United States of our invention and our diligence, we submit the following document attached hereto as Exhibit B. Exhibit B contains 8 pages from a document prepared by our design group prior to April 20, 2000. We disclosed features of our invention in this document, which also includes photographs of a prototype of our device that was made and tested prior to April 20, 2000. This document shows all of the features which the Examiner believes are missing from the document attached as Exhibit A to our earlier filed Declaration.

4. We declare that the attached Exhibit B is a true and accurate copy of the original document, except that the dates in Exhibit B have been redacted.

5. We hereby declare that all statements made herein of own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Supplemental Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. 1.131

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Supplemental Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. 1.131

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